



Sean Cryan, Chair  
Blake Trask, Vice Chair  
Max Hepp-Buchanan, Secretary  
Craig Benjamin  
Ann Boyd  
Evan Brown  
Allegra Calder  
Matthew Crane  
Gabe Grijalva  
Kelsey Jones-Casey  
Neal Komedal  
Jean White

### Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

**Date/Time:** November 4, 2009/6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
**Chair:** Sean Cryan  
**Recorder:** Allegra Calder  
**Location:** Seattle City Hall, L204

#### October Meeting Minutes Distribution List:

Grace Crunican, Director, Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT)  
Sandra Woods, Manager, Bicycle, Pedestrian & Neighborhood Program & Project Development, SDOT  
Diane Sugimura, Director, Department of Planning and Development (DPD)  
Stella Chao, Director, Department of Neighborhoods (DoN)  
Meeting Presenters (Casey Hildreth, Brian Dougherty)  
Howard Wu, Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board (SPAB) Liaison  
City of Seattle Council Transportation Committee Members (Jan Drago, Sally J. Clark, Richard J. McIver, Jean Godden)  
Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board (SBAB) Board Members

#### SBAB Members Present:

Ann Boyd; Craig Benjamin; Allegra Calder; Matthew Crane; Sean Cryan (Chair); Gabe Grijalva; Max Hepp-Buchanan (Secretary); Kelsey Jones-Casey; Neal Komedal; Blake Trask (Vice Chair); Jean White

#### SBAB Members Absent:

Evan Brown

#### Guests:

Sam Woods, SDOT; Casey Hildreth, SDOT; Brian Dougherty, SDOT; Shaun Darragh; Michael Snyder, Seattle Likes Bikes; Aili LePard; Jason Brien; Evan Conroy, NBBJ; Jon Morgan, SPAB

#### MEETING CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

- Jason Brien, Bike Messenger:
  - Rides his bike from 9-5pm which he feels is a good time to ride; however, evenings/weekends are not good times. Paths empty out into streets and it would be nice if we had a system of trails where you could turn your brain off and not have to worry about traffic.
- Aili LePard, West Seattle resident:

The Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board shall advise the City Council, the Mayor, and all departments and offices of the city on matters related to bicycling, and the impacts which actions by the city may have upon bicycling; and shall have opportunity to contribute to all aspects of the city's planning processes insofar as they relate to bicycling.

-City Council  
Resolution 25534

- Sharrow has been added to the merge along Fauntleroy that she commented on last month. She hasn't cycled on it yet. But didn't get an answer to why they were installed in the way they were initially. Spacing is really weird – really long blocks, with a sharrow at the beginning and the end, but nothing in the long mid-block sections as a reminder.
- Michael Snyder, Seattle Likes Bikes:
  - The Burke Gilman trail near Fremont Bridge had some pavement work done, but there were several cuts and he saw someone with a flat tire. There was no warning, aside from a traffic cone, and no indicator of who was doing the work.
    - Sam Woods from SDOT responded: That part of the Burke Gilman trail is maintained by Quadrant Properties. Quadrant was doing the repair work and didn't provide proper notification, but had been contacted by SDOT about how to improve notice.
  - League of American Cycles is starting a Bicycling Skills 123 for bike shops, dealers, etc. to start teaching. He distributed a copy of the instructors' manual.
  - Traffic Skills 201 is now available – a copy was passed around.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

*Time:* 6:15 p.m.

### **Topic: Westlake Transportation Hub Strategy**

*Presenter:* Casey Hildreth, SDOT Policy and Planning, and Brian Dougherty, SDOT.

*Purpose:* Present the Strategy and seek feedback on the preliminary plan from SBAB.

*Findings/ Critical Points:*

- In 2003, City did some work on framing Seattle's future without a viaduct and developed 3 Downtown hubs – Westlake, Colman Dock (WSF) and King Street Station (heavy rail). This has become the backbone of recent and ongoing work. In 2007, streetcar opened and light rail was on the way so SDOT began thinking about a strategy.
- Strategy has four main components:
  1. Provide commuter services around Westlake
    - Exploring financing options/partnerships. Think many projects could be eligible for grants.
    - Short term tasks – how to better use mezzanines in the station – lots of room in there, but fire code and other issues to understand.
    - Interim strategies for secure and/or covered parking – corral.
    - Presented rendering of Westlake streetcar plaza. Westlake no longer connects Stewart and Olive to create a pedestrian plaza. Includes a second streetcar platform and potentially adds covered bike parking – size TBD, looking for feedback. It could eventually turn into a bike share station.
    - Bike Station membership could include access to secured parking lots around the city.
    - Goal is to use redevelopment in and around the hub to reconfigure the station entrances – make them more visual to the casual user.
  2. Improve Urban Trails and Bikeway
    - Dexter and Stewart and Pine are all heavy bike routes but there is a gap from 7th to the Hub.
    - 7th between Denny and Olive project was on the list for 2008. Project was designed but needed more study and became 2009 and is now a 2010 project. Current configuration is 4 lanes – 2 in each direction.

- Volumes are low enough that center turn lane can be eliminated to get buffered bike lane (similar to E Marginal Way).
- Need to extend facility across Westlake to connect with Westlake hub. The goal is to connect with the two two-way sections of 7th.
- Reduce roadway to 2 travel lanes from 3. Contra flow bike lane would have a 2' buffer with posts (about 3' high) spaced about 3-5' apart (this would run alongside the Federal court house).
- 3. Explore a Bike Share Program
  - In Paris they were hard-wire installed, lots of maintenance, upfront costs.
  - A Montreal based company has developed a solar power model which offers more flexibility.
  - Help build bicycle culture, perfect for short trips at the end of a commute. The area around the hub is flat, so that should help.
  - Target riders would be primarily locals and transit riders and not tourists.
  - Boston is using a RFP process and King County Metro is interested in something similar. It should be a way to have minimal risk on the part of the city. There would be some upfront costs, but the ongoing program would be run by the private vendor and sustained by membership or hourly rates.
  - Budget implications are minimal so it's possible we could do a RFP soon, but we need to do some more research.
- 4. Develop more two way streets in and around hub – help with local circulations
  - Virginia, 6th and 8th – benefit for cyclist community in putting together routes.
  - Trying to deemphasize this part of Westlake as an arterial and move people out into the grid.
- More info: [www.seattle.gov/transportation/westlakehub.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/westlakehub.htm)
- Other comments
  - DSA urban commuter group applied for a grant to inventory all private parking in downtown for bikes. This information could be combined with the existing inventory of all public spaces.

*Recommendations:*

- The Board appreciates SDOT keeping SBAB informed as the work at Westlake develops, and we would like to see this again for both the main design concepts, as well as smaller implementation projects that come in. Board members are available to participate on focus groups to look at detailed implementation plans as they are available, and can create a subgroup for plans for how this connects to the network south of Westlake.
- The Board supports the bike share element of the program and the idea of looking at additional locations, focusing on a target user, keeping the system very flexible and integrating with the ORCA card.
- The Board recommends signage and public education efforts as small changes to the Hub occur in order to tell people they are part of a bigger vision.
- The Board recommends that SDOT consider elimination of on-street parking along the 7th Avenue segment in order to have a continuous bike lane.
- The Board recommends that SDOT consider a 7th Avenue to Pine Street connection to reach the uphill climbing lane to Capitol Hill.
- The Board requests that as plans for Virginia Street come together, SDOT follow-up with SBAB on elements of the plans.

- If a grant is approved for the Downtown Seattle Association to inventory downtown private bicycle parking and facilities, the Board would like to have them report on their findings.

*Action Item or Follow Up:*

- SDOT will share a “bird’s-eye view” or aerial illustration of the full project once it’s completed.

*Time:* 7:30 p.m.

**Topic: 2009 SDOT Bicycle Master Plan Update**

*Presenter:* Sam Woods, SDOT Manager Bicycle, Pedestrian & Neighborhood Program & Project Development

*Purpose:* Provide an update on Bicycle Master Plan implementation and seek feedback on the preliminary plan from SBAB

*Findings/ Critical Points:*

- 2009 commitment of 35 miles has been reached. One more mile will be completed shortly making it 36 for the year.
- Urban trails and bikeways – doing an inventory of all 90 miles to assess the pavement (pothole, cuts etc) and then do proactive repairing. Minor work will be done this winter and corridors needing major repairs will be done next year.
- An assessment of the 2007/08/09 project splits between sharrows, climbing lanes, and bike lanes is underway. Segments change on streets so it has taken us some time. Preliminary results show that there have been more sharrows than bike lanes.
- Completed an inventory of bike racks (approximately 2600) and they are mapped using GIS to show the location and highlight gaps.
- Asset management planning is currently a big focus for SDOT.

*Recommendations:*

None.

*Action Item or Follow Up:*

SDOT will check on the status of left-turn lanes that cross the Central Link light rail line and whether or not the traffic signals are calibrated to detect the presence of bicycles.

*Time:* 7:45 p.m.

**Topic: Committee Updates**

*Presenter:* Sean Cryan, SBAB; Allegra Calder, SBAB; Max Hepp-Buchanan,

*Purpose:* Provide an updates on Committee meetings attended by SBAB members

*Findings/ Critical Points:*

- Sean Cryan provided an update on a Sound Transit Bicycle Committee Meeting. Sean noted that Michael Snyder’s streetcar related bikeability tour was mentioned at the meeting as very beneficial. Sound Transit has decided they need a bicycle management plan and they are putting that together. Hanging racks on light rail are currently not being used as their location interferes with access to something (either accessible seats or doorways). There was some talk about bike share at stations.
- Allegra Calder attended the October Bridging the Gap meeting which focused primarily on the 3 year Levy update, a publication describing the outcomes and next steps to be released some time in Q1 2010.
- Max Hepp-Buchanan met with Eileen Kadesh from King County Metro last month. She is trying to get major stakeholders together to gauge the level of interest of organizations like the

University of Washington (UW), Microsoft, Seattle Children's Hospital, etc. She sent a letter to Sound Transit's Spokespeople (internal bicycle advocacy) group and they were undecided about which, if any, future action they would take. The City will fund an urban planning studio at UW to do some analysis on potential locations and demand for bike share programs starting in January.

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*Time:* 7:55 p.m.

**Topic: Closing Thoughts**

*Presenter:* Sean Cryan and Blake Trask, SBAB; and other SBAB members

*Purpose:* Provide an updates on Board activities, upcoming Board meetings, and any updates on bicycling-related activities within Seattle

- Bikeability Tours: It would be great to do a tour in the next few months. A facilities tour is one option. Blake Trask expressed interest in putting together a biking tour starting at Pioneer Square to King Jackson Area, through the 12th corridor and up Cherry and then maybe 19th or 23rd then potentially south into Mt. Baker Light Rail Station. Riding a train would be a possibility. Both tours would be good inputs into a briefing packet for incoming elected officials and a facilities tour could help future discussions with DPD.
- A letter from SBAB and SPAB requesting the establishment of dedicated funding for bike and pedestrian projects was sent to members of the Seattle City Council. One meeting with a legislative aide has already occurred and additional meetings with Councilmembers are scheduled. Reaction has been positive and it was noted that this is an important step in reestablishing SBAB's relationship with City Council.

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

- Sean Cryan adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

**\*\*\*Next Meeting Wednesday December 2, 2009, 6-8 PM \*\*\***  
**Boards and Commissions Room L280**